

**CLEAN
BREAK**

**SHEFFIELD
THEATRES**

Press Release Friday 13 August

CRUCIBLE
A Clean Break and Sheffield Theatres Production
World Première

CLEAN BREAK AND SHEFFIELD THEATRES ANNOUNCE CASTING FOR *TYPICAL GIRLS*

Writer Morgan Lloyd Malcolm
Director Róisín McBrinn
Musical Director Rosie Bergonzi
Casting Director Nadine Rennie CDG
Assistant Director Aaliyah Mckay
Designer Kat Heath
Lighting Designer Katy Morrison
Associate Lighting Designer Rachel Cleary
Sound Designer Beth Duke
Movement Director Chi San Howard
Music Director Mentor Yshani Perinpanayagam
Line Producer 45 North
Featuring the music of The Slits

Friday 24 September – Saturday 16 October 2021
(Press Performance: Tuesday 28 September at 7pm)

Clean Break and Sheffield Theatres today announce the cast for *Typical Girls* by Morgan Lloyd Malcolm, at the Crucible Theatre from Friday 24 September to Saturday 16 October.

Directed by Clean Break's Joint Artistic Director Róisín McBrinn (*Afterplay*, Sheffield Theatres) full casting includes Helen Cripps (*Women Beware Women*, Shakespeare's Globe), Lucy Edkins ([BLANK], Donmar Warehouse), Lucy Ellinson (*Run Sister Run*, Sheffield Theatres), Eddy Queens (*Through This Mist*, Clean Break), Alison Fitzjohn (*Take That's – The Band Musical*, UK Tour), Lara Grace Ilori (*Living Newspaper Edition 6*, Royal Court) and Carrie Rock (*Julius Caesar*, Donmar Warehouse/St Ann's Warehouse, New York).

“This is punk. This is rebellion. This is how we make change. This is what we need to do.”

From writer **Morgan Lloyd Malcolm** (*Emilia*) and featuring the music of influential all-female punk band, The Slits, *Typical Girls* is part gig, part play and is funny, fierce and furious.

In a specialised unit inside a prison, a group of women discover the music of punk rock band The Slits and form their own group. An outlet for their frustration, they find remedy in revolution. But in a system that suffocates, can rebellion ever be allowed?

Róisín McBrinn, Joint Artistic Director of Clean Break: *“We’re over the moon to be co-producing this raucous, explosive show! Morgan’s script is electric, and we have a stellar creative team and hugely exciting cast. Clean Break is so proud to be returning with this joyous, important play and to be exploding it onto the beautiful Crucible stage!”*

Robert Hastie, Artistic Director of Sheffield Theatres: *“We couldn’t be more excited to be producing such a bold, riotous new play with a company as inspiring as Clean Break, and can’t wait to welcome this brilliant cast and creative team into the rehearsal room.”*

Returning to the Crucible are **Lucy Ellinson**, following her starring role in *Run Sister Run* in 2020; and **Róisín McBrinn**, after directing the 2014 production *Afterplay* by Brian Friel.

Typical Girls will be at the Crucible Theatre from 24 September to 16 October with the performance on 6 October live-streamed and available to watch online. Tickets will be available from sheffieldtheatres.co.uk.

- ENDS -

For national press enquiries about Sheffield Theatres, please contact:

James Lever | james@joallanpr.com | 020 7520 9392 | 07753 222768

Hannah Stockton | hannah@joallanpr.com | 020 7520 9392 | 07889 542 245

Jo Allan | jo@joallanpr.com | 020 7520 9392 | 07889 905 850

For local press enquiries about Sheffield Theatres, please contact:

Carrie Askew | c.askew@sheffieldtheatres.co.uk | 0114 201 3840

For press enquiries about Clean Break, please contact:

Nancy Poole | nancy@nancypoolepr.com | 07957 342850

Sally Muckley | sally.muckley@cleanbreak.org.uk | 020 7482 8611

Notes to Editors:

Biographies

Cast

Helen Cripps Helen is an actor and writer. Her theatre credits include; *Women Beware Women* (Shakespeare's Globe), *Persuasion* (Royal Exchange), *Julius Caesar* (Donmar Warehouse/St. Ann's Warehouse New York), *Earthquakes in London* (National Theatre/Headlong). Film credits include; *The Darkest Universe* and *Black Pond*. Television credits include; *This Is Going To Hurt* (BBC), *Flowers* (Channel 4/Netflix), *Hetty Feather* (CBBC), *Josh* (BBC), *Horne and Corden* (BBC).

Lucy Edkins Lucy is a writer, actor, visual artist, film-maker and Member of Clean Break. Lucy most recently devised and performed in Clean Break's production of *Inside Bitch* at Royal Court (2019) and performed in *[BLANK]* at Donmar Warehouse (2019).

Lucy Ellinson Lucy's theatre credits include: *Run Sister Run* (Sheffield Theatres/Paines Plough/Soho); *Macbeth* (Royal Exchange Theatre); *Top Girls* (National Theatre); *Jubilee* (Lyric Hammersmith/Royal Exchange Theatre); *Kingdom Come, A Midsummer Night's Dream: Play for the Nation* (RSC); *The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui* (Donmar Warehouse); *Grounded, The Christians, Trojan Women, Tenet* (The Gate); *World Factory* (Metis Arts/Young Vic/New Wolsey); *Mad Man* (Theatre Royal Plymouth); *Money: The Gameshow* (Clare Duffy/Unlimited Theatre/The Bush); *Oh The Humanity! (and other good intentions)* (Northern Stage/Soho); *Presumption* (Third Angel); *#torycore* (Forest Fringe/The Arches/BAC/Gate); *Land Without Words, The Sun Sets Eight Times a Day* (suite42); *About Francois* (suite42/El Hakawati); *Hussein* (suite42/Zoukak).

Eddy Queens Eddy is an actor and singer and Member of Clean Break. She has performed extensively with Clean Break including *Through This Mist* (2021), *Meal Ticket* (Latitude 2015) and *Sweatbox* (UK Tour 2015). She also appeared in *See Me Now* and *Twelfth Night* at the Young Vic and has released an album and 2 singles with EMI.

Alison Fitzjohn Alison is from Cardiff and is based in Bristol. She trained at Bretton Hall, University of Leeds, graduating with a BA (Hons) in Theatre Acting. Her theatre credits include: *Dr Faustus: A Musical with Demons* (The Cockpit), *Take That's - The Band Musical* (UK Tour and Westend), *Horrible Histories* (Westend, UK and International Tour), *Gangsta Granny* (UK Tour), *Alice's Adventures Underground* (Olivier Nominated, Waterloo Vaults). TV/Film credits include: *Stuffed* (Winner of Best Performer - North Bend Film Festival), *Deceit* (Channel 4), *The Offenders* (BBC and Amazon), *Tea Time* (Kodak Competition), *Haunted Antiques Roadshow* (The Hook), *Paranoid Psychic* (Natwest), *Macbeth* (All around the World). Assistant Directing credits include: David Williams' *Billionaire Boy* and *Gangsta Granny* (UK Tour) and *Horrible Christmas* (The Lowry, Salford)

Lara Grace Ilori Lara graduated with a BA in Acting degree from RADA in 2020. Lara's credits whilst training include: Kent in *King Lear*, Storm in *Mysterious Bruises*, Marge Murray/DJ

Shadow/Judge/Shannon in *The Laramie Project* and Nancy in *Frozen* (by Bryony Lavery). Since graduating Lara has played various roles in *Living Newspaper (Edition 6)* at the Royal Court.

Carrie Rock Carrie is an actor and Member of Clean Break. She is currently doing a Master's Degree in Acting (Classical) at The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. Her theatre credits include: *Faith, Hope and Charity* (National Theatre), *Blackout* (Synergy Theatre Project, Ovalhouse Theatre), *Rising* (Cardboard Citizens), *Shell and Davey At The Start And The End* (The Vaults), *And Yet It Moves* (Young Vic Theatre), *Sweatbox* (UK Tour), *Girls Like That* (Synergy Theatre Project, Unicorn Theatre), *Seventeen Minutes* (Clean Break/Soho Theatre), *Pastoral* (Soho Theatre), *Julius Caesar* (Donmar Warehouse/St Ann's Warehouse, New York).

Creative Team

Morgan Lloyd Malcolm (writer) Morgan is a playwright and screenwriter. Her theatre credits include: *Emilia* (The Globe, 2018/West End Transfer, 2019/ International Tour, 2019), *The Wasp* (Hampstead Theatre/ Trafalgar Studios, 2015) and *Belongings* (Hampstead Theatre, 2011). She has co-written several acclaimed immersive site-specific plays with Katie Lyons including *You Once Said Yes, Above and Beyond* and *Once Upon a Christmas*. She is under commission with Headlong and her play *Mum*, will premiere at Soho this autumn. Current screen work includes an original treatment for Gaumont, an untitled book adaptation for Gaumont/Moonage and two episodes of a comedy drama for Merman Films. She is also under commission to adapt both *Emilia* and *The Wasp* as feature films.

Róisín McBrinn (Director) Róisín is Joint Artistic Director of Clean Break. She is an experienced theatre director working in the UK, Ireland and internationally. For Clean Break she has directed *Blis-ta* (audio drama), *Through This Mist* (Clean Break), *Thick As Thieves* (Theatr Clwyd), *Joanne* (Soho Theatre and RSC) and *House/Amongst The Reeds* (Yard Theatre). Amongst others, Róisín has directed for The Abbey Theatre in Dublin (*A Taste Of Honey/No Escape/ Perve/Heartbreak House, The Snapper* (The Gate Theatre Dublin), *Afterplay* (Sheffield Theatres), *Yerma* (Leeds Playhouse), *The Field* (The Kiln) and as Associate Director for Sherman Theatre (*Before It Rains, Sleeping Beauties* and *It's A Family Affair*). Her awards include the Quercus Award (National Theatre) and the Young Vic Jerwood Young Directors' Award. She has been nominated for the Irish Times Best Director Award.

About Clean Break

Clean Break changes lives and changes minds through theatre – on stage, in prison and in the community. It produces ground-breaking plays with women’s voices at the heart of its work. Founded in 1979 by two women prisoners who believed that theatre could bring the hidden stories of imprisoned women to a wider audience, it remains true to these roots; inspiring playwrights and captivating audiences with the company’s award-winning plays on the complex theme of women and crime. Its commissioned playwrights have included Alice Birch, Deborah Bruce, Lin Coghlan, E V Crowe, Vivienne Franzmann, Tanika Gupta, Katie Hims, Sam Holcroft, Theresa Ikoko, Lucy Kirkwood, Chloë Moss, Rebecca Lenkiewicz, Winsome Pinnock and Rebecca Prichard.

Current Clean Break productions include [Blis-ta](#) – an audioplay by the late Sonya Hale, and [Sweatbox](#) – a film of Chloë Moss’s acclaimed play set in a prison van.

www.cleanbreak.org.uk

@CleanBrk

www.facebook.com/cleanbreak

www.instagram.com/cleanbrk/

www.youtube.com/user/CleanBrk

About Sheffield Theatres

Sheffield Theatres is home to three theatres: the Crucible, the Sheffield landmark with a world-famous reputation; the Studio, an intimate, versatile space for getting closer to the action; and the gleaming Lyceum, the beautiful proscenium that hosts the best of the UK’s touring shows. Committed to investing in the creative leaders of the future, Sheffield Theatres’ dedicated talent development hub, The Bank, opened in 2019 to support a new cohort of emerging directors, writers and producers every year.

Sheffield Theatres held the title ‘Regional Theatre of the Year’ for 2020, having previously held the title on an unprecedented three separate occasions. The company has a reputation for bold new work, and over the last year has produced new musical **Standing at the Sky’s Edge**, with music and lyrics by Mercury Prize nominated **Richard Hawley**. The production won the 2020 South Bank Sky Arts Award for theatre and was named Best Musical Production at the 2019 UK Theatre Awards. **Standing at the Sky’s Edge** was followed by a dazzling new adaptation of **Life of Pi**, which won four awards at the 2019 UK Theatre Awards, Achievement in Technical Theatre at the Stage Awards and Best New Play at the WhatsOnStage Awards. This success follows the phenomenal Sheffield musical **Everybody’s Talking About Jamie** which started life at the Crucible in February 2017, before transferring to the West End later that year. In 2021 the show will resume a UK tour revisiting the Lyceum Theatre in Sheffield in 2022, and the highly anticipated **Everybody’s Talking About Jamie** feature film is released on Amazon Prime on 17 September 2021.

Crucible Lyceum Studio 55 Norfolk Street, Sheffield, S1 1DA

www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk

This production was originally co-commissioned by Clean Break with the Royal Shakespeare Company who also contributed to its early development.

